Navy Case 84569

PATENT

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are in the case as of the date of this amendment. No claims have been allowed.

Claims 1-20 stand provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-20 of co-pending Application No. 10/609,902.

Terminal disclaimers were previously filed by Applicants to overcome the obviousness-type double patenting rejection. The Examiner stated that the person signing the terminal disclaimers is not authorized to sign. The examiner indicated that it would be acceptable for a person to sign a terminal disclaimer if the record for the application includes a statement that the person is empowered to act on behalf of the organization. Please find enclosed an Associate Power of Attorney, signed by an attorney of record, empowering the undersigned to act on behalf of the Secretary of the Navy on matters pertaining to the instant application. The undersigned is the Patent Counsel for the Naval Surface Warfare Center Panama City and has full authority to act on behalf of the Secretary of the Navy in patent matters, including terminal disclaimers.

Also enclosed are copies of the terminal disclaimers originally filed in this case.

Navy Case 84569

PATENT

It is respectfully submitted in view of these remarks that all grounds for rejection have been removed by the foregoing. For the hereinabove reasons, Applicants solicit an early and favorable response.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES T. SHEPHERD

Patent Counsel Naval Surface Warfare Center -

Panama City

Attorney for Applicants

Reg. No. 43917

Naval Surface Warfare Center Panama City Code CPOL 110 Vernon Ave. Panama City, FL 32407-7001 (850) 234-4646